REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-12 are currently pending. Claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice; and Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8-12 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 12 as rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,289,102 to Ueda et al. (hereinafter "the '102 patent"); Claims 3-5, 10, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '102 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,512,882 to Teunissen (hereinafter "the '882 patent"); and Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '102 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,381,202 to Shimoda (hereinafter "the '202 patent").

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is rendered moot by the present amendment to that claim. Claim 12 has been amended to be directed to a computer-readable medium storing a program that causes a computer to execute a method of generating data to be written to an information recording medium. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is rendered moot.

Amended Claim 8 is directed to a data processing method for generating data to be written to an information recording medium, comprising: (1) setting a position at which an entity code for an entity included in a manufacturing route of said information recording medium is to be recorded and setting said entity code in a program map table; (2) generating a plurality of packets in which said program map table is stored in a divided manner; (3)

arranging said plurality of packets in a content stored packet sequence in a distributed manner; and (4) encrypting data included in an encryption processing unit by use of a key generated based on a seed, which is encryption processing key generating information that is set for said encryption processing unit, wherein said setting step includes executing control such that said entity code is included in an encrypted area encrypted by a key generated based on said seed, without overlapping an area in which said seed is set, wherein said entity code includes an authoring studio code identifying an authoring studio and disc manufacturer code identifying a manufacturer. Claim 8 has been amended for clarity and to include the limitations recited in Claim 7. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 8 is rendered moot by the present amendment to that claim. However, since Claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the limitations recited in Claim 7, Applicants will address the references set forth in the rejection of Claim 7.

The '102 patent is directed to an information recording medium that includes a lead-in area not accessible by devices other than a disc reproducing device, and a data recording area. Further, the '102 patent discloses that key information is recorded in the lead-in area, scrambled data is recorded in the data recording area, and the scrambled data is descrambled based on the key information. In particular, as shown in Figure 3, the '102 patent discloses that the lead-in area includes an initial value table. In particular, the '102 patent discloses that the initial value table includes a table having a list of seeds and associated initial values, which are recorded in the lead-in area.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '102 patent fails to disclose setting a position at which an entity code for an entity included in a manufacturing route of the information recording medium is to be recorded and setting the entity code in a program map table, wherein the setting step includes executing controls such that the entity code is

included in an encrypted area encrypted by a key generated based on the seed, without overlapping an area in which the seed is set, wherein the entity code includes an authoring studio code identifying an authoring studio, and an disc manufacturer code identifying a manufacturer, as recited in amended Claim 8. Rather, the '102 patent merely discloses that various seeds can be stored in a lead-in area on a disc. Applicants respectfully submit that the '102 patent is silent regarding the authoring studio code and the disc manufacturing code, which relate to entities included in a manufacturing route of the information recording medium, as recited in amended Claim 8.

The '202 patent is directed to an information recording/reproducing apparatus for recording information to a recording disc by irradiating a recording beam light to the recording disc according to a recording signal that is indicative of information data. In particular, as shown in Figure 3, the '202 patent discloses that the recording/reproducing apparatus includes means for selecting one of a first recording standard and a second recording standard based on a common disc type information and predetermined information that can be stored in a recording disc. Further, the '202 patent discloses that the common disc type information is information indicative of a disc type of the recording disc, and that the predetermined information can be information indicative of a disc manufacturer. Thus, the '202 patent discloses a system in which, based on the management data read from the recording disc, the disc can be recorded in different ways.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '202 patent fails to disclose setting the position at which an entity code for an entity included in a manufacturing route of the information recording medium is to be recorded and setting the entity code in a program map table, wherein the setting step includes executing control such that the entity code is included in an encrypted area encrypted by a key generated based on the seed, without overlapping an area in which the seed is set, wherein the entity code includes an authoring studio code

identifying an authoring studio and a disc manufacturing code identifying a manufacturer, as recited in amended Claim 8.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '202 patent fails to disclose generating of plurality of packets in which the program map table (which includes the authoring studio code and the disc manufacturing code) is stored in a divided manner, and arranging the plurality of packets in a content stored packet sequence in a distributed manner, as required by Claim 8. In a non-limited example, Applicants refer the Examiner to Figures 6 and 7 and the discussion related thereto in the specification. Rather, the '202 patent merely discloses that disc type information and predetermined information, such as a disc manufacturer, are stored in a particular area on the disc so that the type of recording format can be determined. On the contrary, the invention recited in Claim 8 requires that the authoring studio code and the disc manufacturing code be included in a program map table and stored in a plurality of packets that are arranged in a distributed manner. See Figure 7D. Further, as discussed above, the '202 patent is silent regarding the authoring studio code recited in amended Claim 8.

Thus, no matter now the teachings of the '102 and '202 patents are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest a data processing method including setting a position at which an entity code for an entity included in a manufacturing route of the information recording medium is to be recorded and setting the entity code in a program map table, generating a plurality of packets in which the program map table is stored in a divided manner, arranging the plurality of packets in a contents stored packet sequence in a distributed manner, wherein the setting step includes executing control such that the entity code is included in an encrypted area encrypted by a key generated based on the seed, without overlapping an area in which the seed is set, wherein the entity code includes an authoring studio code identifying an authoring studio and a disc manufacturing code

identifying a manufacturer, as recited in amended Claim 8. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 8 is rendered moot and that Claim 8 patentably defines over any proper combination of the '102 and '202 patents.

Independent Claims 1 and 12 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 8 and have been amended in the manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 8. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 8, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 1 and 12 (and all associated dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to those claims.

Regarding the rejection of dependent Claims 3-5, 10, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that the '882 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '102 and '202 patents as discussed above, and that the rejections are rendered moot by the present amendment to Claims 1 and 8.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is rendered moot by the present cancellation of that claim.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 8, and 12 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the '102, '882, and '202 patents.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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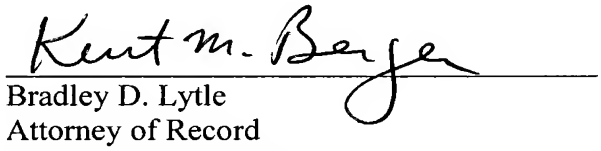

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